News Years Safety Reminders to Make This Holiday One to Remember

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News Release

Contact: Kristie Brian 903-237-2716 or email [1]December 30, 2013

News Years Safety Reminders

(Longview, TX) The City of Longview is urging residents to be safe during the upcoming New Years Holiday.

The Longview Fire and Police Departments want to remind citizens it is against City ordinance to use or have fireworks, including firecrackers, bottle rockets, skyrockets or sparklers. Anyone caught with fireworks inside the City limits will be issued a citation with fines over \$300.00. Anyone using fireworks that result in a fire will be subject to criminal charges, as well.

Emergency dispatchers receive numerous phone calls on New Years because of people discharging firearms in the air. Discharging a firearm within the City limits is against the law, and if caught, the person will be arrested. It can also be a deadly practice too. Each year people are injured or die, and property is damaged, from being hit by stray bullets.

Citizens also need to use extra caution and allow extra travel time when hitting the roads as many celebrate the holiday.

Motorists should always wear seatbelts. And, if you are planning to drink, have a designated driver. Longview Officers will be out in force over the holiday looking for people that are driving and driving.

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Safe New Years celebrations are the goal of every member of the Longview Fire and Police Departments and the City of Longview, and we encourage every resident or visitor to the City to help us make this an enjoyable and memorable holiday.

• <u>Police</u> [2]

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